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**EXCERPTS OF REPORT ON VISIT TO EAST TIMOR IN JULY 1986 BY MIGUEL ANACORETA CORREIA (M.P.) PRESENTED TO THE EAST TIMOR COMMISSION OF THE PORTUGUESE PARLIAMENT**

**Dates of visit to East Timor:** From July 11 to July 15,1986

Persons who accompanied Anacoreta Correia throughout the whole visit: Commander Yusuf Efendi (Special Assistant to General Moerdani)
Dr.Lobo Amaral (Macau Administration)
Mr.Serodio (Portuguese Business Man)

Places visited in East Timor:Dili, Aileu, Lospalos, Baucau,Suai,Maliana,Cailaco, Atauro and resettlement camp Caiuri

Meetings held with: General Moerdani (two times), Governor Mario Carrascalao, the Apostolic Administrator Filipe Ximenes Belo, the Military Commander responsible for East Timor General Yosfiah.

Mr.Anacoreta Correia's visit to East Timor was a private arrangement, but had the previous approval and the complete backing of the Portuguese Government.
Mr.Anacoreta Correia needed an interpreter for all conversations held in English.

Before leaving for East Timor (July 9) A.C. had a 55 minute meeting with General Moerdani in Jakarta). He describes the atmosphere as cordial and is impressed with Gen.Moerdani's knowledge of the Portuguese language and culture.
A.C. stated the Portuguese position on East Timor and stressed that his visit would serve the purpose of presenting an objective report on his visit to the Portuguese Government.
A.C. asked for a normalization of mail between Portugal and East Timor, as well as for the admission of Portuguese tourists into Indonesia as a
sign of good will on part of the Indonesian Government.
Gen.Moerdani main points during the conversation were:
- The Portuguese TV-Report by Rui Araujo in 1983 had closed the doors of dialogue;
- Moerdani himeslf still heads all operations in East Timor;
- The guerrilla forces are of about 400 men, who do not have any outside direction;
- The Indonesian transmigration program is being applied to East Timor with special care;

- Indonesia only recognizes "countries and governments" and not Non-Governmental-Organizations's such as Amnesty International with the exception of the ICRC;
- Indonesia wants to offer Portugal a "face saving device" given the fact that Portugal has administered East Timor for almost 500 years.

At the end of the meeting A.C. offered Gen.Moerdani a blessed image of Our Lady of Fatima, a present of East Timorese living in Portugal who expressed the wish that our Lady of Fatima will Gen.Moerdani to find just solutions for East Timor.
Moerdani is said to have been very touched by this gestured and expressed his desire to be able to make another pilgrimage to Fatima.

Before taking off to East Timor, A.C. met in Bali with the regional military commander General Radjagukguk to whom he stressed that the Portuguese position would cover 4 aspects:
1. Geostrategic conditions; 2. Conditions of the Indonesian Political System; 3.Conditions of the Portuguese political system; 4. The wish of the people of East Timor.

Program of visit: A.C.'s first program proposal was changed. After he had made it clear to Gov. Carrascalao that he choosing his own program would be in the interest of all sides involved, A.C. was able to set up his own itinerary. But he complains about constant excessive security forces around him not only during his traveling, but also at the hotel. A.C. says that the security forces intimidated people who would have liked to come and talk to him, but did not dare to show up. The security forces also took away all naturalness and ease of his contacts.
At the same time A.C. states that he was not hindered in any way and that there were even no restrictions on taking pictures.

Daily life in Dili: Javanese occupy all important positions in public life. Lots of money seems to be floating around in Dili which makes it very attractive to Indonesian settlers. The Timorese cannot compete with the Indonesians because of their passivity.
All goods and services are available on the market, Dili is a duty free zone and goods are directly shipped in from Singapore.
Materially the town seems to be very well off, but the psychological condition of the place is obviously very bad.
It is obvious that the Timorese reject Indonesia, especially certain aspects of government that have to do with the army and the security forces. The whole East Timorese population seems to

be traumatized by the events of civil war between 1974 and 1976 and the actions of the Indonesian army during the first years of occupation.A.C. says that he heard many accounts of persecution, of a very tight control, of denunciations and of the fact that people are afraid to talk. A.C.'s impression is that the Indonesians want to bet on the new generation and avoid conflict as much as possible with the generation that lived with the Portuguese. But he expresses his doubts about Indonesia's ability to gain the confidence of the Esat Timorese. The population that lived with the Portuguese puts all its hope in returning to Portugal one day. The ICRC says that these people live in constant anxiety and want to leave for Portugal as soon as possible.Some of them go through heroic sacrifices in order to have their children educated at the only Portuguese language school in East Timor.
In other sectors of the population, such as the farmers, one notices a lot of fear.

**Impressions collected during various visits:**

LOSPALOS: Seems to be a peaceful village. Salesians carry out great tasks there. The churches are always overflowing with people.

BAUCAU:The requested meeting with Father Locotelli did not take place because Father Locotelli was reading mass in Venilale.
The market place and the home of the town's administrator were visited. Indonesian military commanders were also present at the above mentioned home.
Baucau's population, of which 90% are Catholic, is much poorer than the population in Lospalos.
A.C. meets with Indonesian journalist from Kompas
who says that the Timor problem is mainly a problem of education and job training.

ATAURO:There are less than 1000 prisoners on Atauro today, all of them with the exception of one come from the Viqueque area. The Indonesian plan is to close the Atauro camp during the current year and to send all the prisoners back to the mainland.Years ago many children starved to death on Atauro; nowadays there seems to be no food problem. But people have no occupation, nothing to do all day, which will make it difficult for them to readapt to normal life.

CAIURI (RESETTLEMENT CAMP SOUTHEAST OF BAUCAU): The whole population had been imprisoned on Atauro Island, because the Indonesians believed them to be Fretilin supporters or sympathizers.
Even Gov. Carrascalao critizises this camp, saying that it was badly established founded and that it needed improvements.
The whole camp has a very bad atmosphere to it. The people are very afraid. On the level of Indonesian material accomplishments this place left the worst impression on the visitors.

SUAI: The administrator is a former Apodeti member who impresses the visitors with all the signs of progress in this area.
The transmigration program plans to move 725 families from Bali and other parts of Timor to Suai. The oil drillings were closed.

MALIANA: The only contact established was with the local administrator who gives statistics on how much more new farm land and how many more schools there are now.

PURUGOA: "Transitional Camp" for people who originally came from Lospalos, Viqueque and Baucau and who were imprisoned on Atauro until 1982. They will only be allowed to return to their home lands when the situation in their region is normalized.

AILEU: The only trip made by road and not by helicopter. The roads are new but are already in a bad state. The driving from Dili to Aileu (ca. 25 miles) took two hours.
The population in 1973 was of 37.000 and in 1979 it was only of 13.000. The population is extremely traumatized.

Outside of Dili the contacts with the population are easier. But one notices that there are almost no men of medium age.

COMARCA PRISON: Briefing by prison commander. Conditions seem to be quite satisfactory, but all prisoners will be transferred to the Becora prison, which is still under construction but which already accomodates many prisoners.
There are 133 prisoners in the Comarca Prison ("elements who disturb peace" which include political prisoners and others).
(Translator's note: The prison schedule is attached to the report. It reads like the schedule of a holiday camp.)

The prison administration told A.C. that the maximum sentence given is 3 years, the minimum 3 months and that the prisoners have to wait two weeks for their trial.
Other sources had told A.C.that many East Timorese political prisoners were sent to various prisons throughout Indonesia.

DILI CENTRAL HOSPITAL: Presentation of official statistics.
The information given is that all medical treatment is totally free.

TRACES OF PORTUGAL: A.C. admits that one of his main interests during his visit was to find out about Portuguese monuments.
He is very satisfied to see Portuguese street names and to see that Portuguese monuments are intact. He also finds out about East Timorese groups who continue to practice Portuguese folclore.
Conclusion drawn by A.C.: There are no signs of a policy of cultural genocide.

DEMOGRAPHY: Figures relating to 1974 and present population statistics in the various regions make it clear that more than 100.000 East Timorese have died due to armed action or its direct consequences.
The present population is estimated at 629.800.
The loss of 1/7 of the population has deeply traumatized the East Timorese people. A.C.did not meet anyone who had not lost family members.

EDUCATION: A.C. is deeply impressed with Indonesian achievements. But he is aware of the strategic thinking behind the Indonesian efforts: Cultural uniformization, in the first place through the use of Bahasa Indonesia.

FINANCIAL AND ECONOMIC SITUATION: A.C. notices that everything is imported. The only export are 6000 tons of coffee per year and some sandal wood. The exports cover only 2% of the imports.
According to Gov. Carrascalao, the Indonesian Government spends US $ 60 million a year on development projects and US $ 12 million for current expenses.

ICRC: A.C. talked to nurse Jetty Bloom who says that she has been the only ICRC-representative in East Timor for the past 18 months. The ICRC operates only on Atauro and continues to carry out the repatriation program. Ms. Bloom said that last year she was not allowed to leave Dili, but that she may now move around freely.

ASPECTS OF THE MILITARY SITUATION: A.C. found it very difficult to obtain information on the military situation. His main source was the military commander of East Timor, Colonel Yosfiah.
The resistance continues to be active mainly in the Viqueque and Lospalos regions, but it has diminished over the past years.According to Indonesian sources, the resistance attacks civilians at night just to obtain food. Other sources said that Indonesia continues to suffer a significant number of casualities. A.C. found out that it still seems to be impossible to visit military cemeteries.
Captured guerrillas seem to be in good health, which to the visitors is a surprising sign of their great capacity to adapt to the territory.
A.C. says that his trips by helicopter allowed him to confirm the Fretilin maps on Indonesian military positions in East Timor.Some military installations seemed to be hidden, but the location of most could be perfectly confirmed.
A.C. states that the guerrillas enjoy widespread support or at least the sympathy of large sectors of the population. Antipathy against the Indonesians is hardly hidden.
The Indonesian army which is supported by several Indonesian militias in Lospalos,Baucau and other areas, has two battalions of East Timorese soldiers.
According to Coronel Yosfiah, the army works for development and military action is not its priority.

**Contacts with the resistance were not allowed due to security reasons.**

Meeting with the Apostolic Administrator Mgr. Filipe Ximenes Belo: Before the meeting took place A.C. had already observed the extremely important role of the Church in East Timor (churches were always overflowing with people).
Mgr. Belo made the following points during the meeting:
- Violations of human rights continue, although things may have improved a bit;
- There is the imperative necessity to defend the identity of

the East Timorese people in order to guarantee the survival of a community that differs from other Indonesian communities;
- The solution of the problem is difficult. Any solution demands that the population will be consulted in the freest possible way, without imported propaganda;
- The Church in East Timor does not receive any official help;
- The only school that teaches in Portuguese is run by the Church. The school struggles for survival and its courses are not officially recognized.

Meeting with Governor Mario Carrascalao: Carrascalao stressed that the limits of freedom of movement for the visitor were only due to a lack of means of transportantion. A.C. travelled mostly by military helicopter and was accompanied by Mr.Inacio de Moura in his function as a representative of the Governor.
Many questions put to the Governor were not answered immediately in order to save time. The answers were submitted later in writing. They basically repeat Indonesian Government statistics and statements.
The question on the difficulty of mail circulation between East Timor and Portugal received the following answer:
There are no limits to the circulation of mail, but there is a problem of which one does not know the cause. The best solution at the present moment is to send all the mail to the Governor who will then distribute it to the people concerned.
The question on the authorization of future visits to East Timor was answered as follows:
Future visits will be allowed, if the previous visits produce something positive toward the solution of the East Timor problem, especially regarding the position of Portugal. Future visits will be impossible if previous visits produce bad results.
Indonesia will not repeat the mistake it made when it allowed the Portuguese TV-team headed by Rui Araujo into East Timor.

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Before leaving for Portugal, A.C. had another 50 minute meeting with General Moerdani. This time the meeting took place in Kuala Lumpur. A.C. confirmed that the Portuguese position takes into account that the population of East Timor must be consulted.
General Moerdani stressed the fact that elections will be held in
East Timor in May 1987 and that Indonesia is planning to invite UN-observers as well as other personalities.

In his general conclusions A.C. states that although his contacts were only with the Portuguese speaking community, he believes that rejection and mistrust towards Indonesia are generalized feelings thoughout East Timor.